ments in the Act regarding restoration of minority character and autonomy of the university; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. A representation in this regard has been received from President, Jamia Millia Islamia Students' Union.

(b) The matter has been examined and it has been decided not to make any changes in the Jamia Millia Islamia Act, 1988.

Tropical Rain Forests

3449. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas of tropical rain forests in the coutnry;

(b) whether there is any proposal for the protection of such forests;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The tropical rain forests of the country extend over about 5.12 million ha, as per the State Forest Report 1987, and are found in North Eastern States, Western Ghats (Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra), Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Goa.

(b) and (c). The following initiatives and measures have been taken to protect such forests:

1. *The National forest Policy, 1988,* lays more emphases on conservation of forests. There are specific provisions for protection of forests from grazing, fires and encroachment.

2. Forests (Conservation) Act was enacted in 1980 to check diversion of forests land for non-forestry purposes. The Act has been made more stringent by an amendment of 1988.

3. A Centrally sponsored scheme is under implementation to help the States to develop infrastructure for protection of forest against biotic interference.

4. Guidelines have been issued to State/UT Govts. from time to time for protection of forests. Some of these guidelines are as follows:-

(i) To avoid felling of natural forests and where such felling is inevitable for restoration of crop or other silvicultural considerations, it should be restricted to an area not exceeding 10 hectares in the hills and 25 hectares in the plains.

(ii) To consider banning of felling in the hills above 1,000 metres, at least for some years.

(iii) To set apart 4% of the geographical area as protected area like wildlife sanctuaries, national parts, biosphere reserve etc.

5. Massive afforestation, Social & Farm forestry including integrated Watershed Scheme under 20 Point Programme is being carried out in all states/Uts.

(d) Does not arise.

Overhauling of Coaches

3450. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: *Will the Minister of RAILWAYS* be pleased to state:

(a) the period after which railway coaches are taken for overhauling;

(b) the names of centres where coaches are overhauled;

(c) whether the facility of fixing cushions in the coaches in also available at all the centres; and

(d) the number of coaches in which cushions seats were provided during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Periodicity for overhaul is different for different types of coaches and ranges between 12 months and 24 months.

(b) The name of centres, (viz. workshops) where coaches are overhauled, are given below.

Railways	*Broad Gauge Workshop*	*Metre Gauge Workshop*
Central	Matunga Bhopal Jhansi	
Eastern	Lilluah Kanchrapara	
Northern	Alambagh Jagadhri	Bikaner Jodhpur
Northern Eastern	Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur Izatnagar
Northeast Frontier	New Bongaigaon	New Bongaigaon Dibrugarh
Southern	Perambur	Golden Rock Mysore
South Central	Lallaguda Tirupati	Hubli
South Eastern	Kharagpur Mancheswar	
Western	Parel Pratapnagar	Ajmer Bhasvnagar

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No coaches are planned for fixing cushions during 1991-92 since cushioned berths have been provided in all the three-tier sleeper coaches identified for conversion.

De-Licencing of Sugar Mills

3451. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to de-licence Sugar mills and provided some concessions to agricultural sector as is being provided to the industrial sector;

(b) whether Government propose to withdraw the dual policy on subsidy;

(c) if so, the effective steps taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). At present, there is no proposal to de-licence the sugar industry or to do away with the dual pricing system in the sugar industry.

(d) Sugar is an essential commodity, whose production and distribution is required to be regulated in a planned manner, so as to make it available at a reasonable price to the consumers.

Quota of Berths for Vijayawada

3452. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether because of insufficient quota of reservation to Vijayawada city on many important trains the passengers are suffering a lot;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the reservation quota for Vijayawada city on the super fast trains that pass through it;

(c) if so, the details ; and

(d) if not, the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Some passengers remain on the waiting list at Vijayawada station.

(b) to (c). The reserved accommodation available by super fast trains which pass through Vijayawada has been distributed to various stations where the same is being fully utilised leaving no scope for any increase in the quota at Vijayawada for the present.

Nilambur - Mysore Line

3453. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for construction of railway line from Nilambur to Mysore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be a taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vocationalisation of Secondary Education

3454. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: